Organ trading

1335. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that despite the Act banning the organ trading, the practice continues in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any analysis to know how the Act banning the organ trade has achieved its objectives and what are the
deficiencies in its being effective; and

(c) what measures are contemplated by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) No such information has come to the notice of the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government of India passed a Transplantation of Human Organs Act 1994, which came into force with effect from 4.2.1995. It provides for the regulation of removal, storage and transplantation of Human Organs for therapeutic purposes, and for the prevention of commercial dealings in Human Organs and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. It also provides for stringent punishment for removal of Human Organs without authority, wheh is punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to 5 years, and with fine which may extend to Rs. 10,000/-. If a Registered Medical practitioner is convicted, his name can be removed from the Register of the respective State Medical Council for a period of 2 years for the first offence and permanently for subsequent offence. Except two States, *viz.* Mizoram and Bihar all other States have adopted the Transplantation of Human Organs Act and such incident, if any, therefore, may not occur in future.

Tightening PFA Act

1336. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what corrective measures are proposed to be taken to tighten the Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Act to raise food and drug standards in the country;

(b) whether the Central Government are considerating to establish more centres to test products for purity and quality, as the existing Government machinery is not adequate; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THEMINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) The amendment to the provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 and the rules made thereunder is an ongoing process, which is resorted to from time to time for making these provisions more effective in providing pure and wholesome food to the consumers.

(b) and (c) The provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 are implemented by various State/U.T. Governments within their respective jurisdictions, who have established the food testing laboratories for checking the purity and quality of the food products, as per their requirements. However the Central Government has been providing financial assistance to States/UTs for purchase of equipments for the State Food Laboratories.

Four Central Food Laboratories established under the provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 are working as 'appellate laboratories' for the purpose of analysis of referred samples.

Import of vaccine for Japanese encephalitis

1337. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have turned down the request of Andhra Pradesh Government to import Japanese and Chinese vaccine for Japanese encephalitis;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, since die dreaded disease is in a virulent form in Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) whether Central Government have extended any special assistance to the State to fight the disease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Prevention and control of Japanese Encephalitis (JE) are primarily the responsibility of the Stale Governments. Directorate of National Anti Malaria Programme (NAM?) and National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD) help in the monitoring of incidence of JE and also provide material assistance by way of insecticides to the States as per their need in the event of outbreaks.